

## 9.5.11

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**Question:**

Prove that the curves  $y^2 = 4x$  and  $x^2 = 4y$  divide the area of the square bounded by sides  $x = 0, x = 4, y = 4$ , and  $y = 0$  into three equal parts. (12, 2018)

**Solution:** Area of the Square  $= 4 \times 4 = 16$ .

To find area under the curve  $y^2 = 4x$  between  $y = 0$  and  $y = 4$ , we integrate the expression for  $x$  with respect to  $y$ :

$$\text{Area} = \int_0^4 \frac{y^2}{4} dy = \frac{1}{4} \int_0^4 y^2 dy \quad (1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{y^3}{3} \right]_0^4 = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{64}{3} \quad (2)$$

$$= \frac{16}{3} \quad (3)$$

Now, for area under the  $x^2 = 4y$  between  $x = 0$  and  $x = 4$ , we integrate the expression for  $y$  with respect to  $x$ :

$$\text{Area} = \int_0^4 \frac{x^2}{4} dx = \frac{1}{4} \int_0^4 x^2 dx \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left[ \frac{x^3}{3} \right]_0^4 = \frac{1}{4} \times \frac{64}{3} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{16}{3} \quad (6)$$

The area enclosed by both the curves together is the area of square remaining after removing the area enclosed by the curves and the coordinate axes:

$$16 - \frac{16}{3} + \frac{16}{3} = \frac{16}{3} \quad (7)$$

Thus, from the results (3), (6), (7) we get that the parabolas divide the the square into three regions of equal area, each having an area of  $\frac{16}{3}$ .

